

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Edwards for her review of the prior communications.

Claims 38-51, 53-55, 65, 69-71, 103-108, and 113-115 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1-37, 52, 56-61, 66-68, 72-102, and 109-112 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 53, 55, 70, and 71 have been amended in this paper. Claims 38-51, 65, 69-71 and 103-108 were allowed in the previous Office Action. In the previous Office Action it was also noted that claims 53-55 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 113-115 are new. Claims 38, 39, 40, 53, 55, 65, and 69 are the independent claims.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. Section 103

Claims 29-37, 52, 62-64, and 66-68 were rejected under Section 103 as being unpatentable over Stohr (US 4,953,734). Applicant submits that this rejection is flawed, in part since there has been no showing of a prima facie case of obviousness. In the interest of moving along the prosecution of this application however, and to obtain grant of a patent as soon as possible, Applicant has cancelled the rejected claims. Accordingly, the rejection has been rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all outstanding rejections or objections have been addressed and are now either overcome or moot. Applicant further submits that all claims pending in this application are patentable over the prior art, and that a Notice of Allowance be issued.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at (715) 835-5232 or by facsimile at (715) 835-9890. All correspondence should be directed to the below listed address.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Enclosures

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